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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/849,510	05/19/2004	Gregory John Billington	07703-414001	6776
26211 7590 07/18/2007 FISH & RICHARDSON P.C. P.O. BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			EXAMINER BEAUCHAINE, MARK J	
			ART UNIT 3653	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/18/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/849,510	Applicant(s) BILLINGTON ET AL.	
	Examiner Mark J. Beauchaine	Art Unit 3653	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 June 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 May 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/546,126.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/5/07</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement filed 5 June 2007 has been received. However, the Examiner has been unable to clearly identify documents in the file of record or the parent case based on the document description of the submitted form PTO-1449. Since 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), requires a legible copy of each cited non-patent literature publication or that portion which caused it to be listed, the Examiner requests that a copy of items AQ and AR of said IDS be submitted. Said IDS has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4, 6-14 and 24-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Patent Number 5,464,087 by Bounds et al ("Bounds"). The money handling device disclosed by Bounds comprises a money handling apparatus (see Figure 1 and column 3, lines 32-67), an internal controller for controlling said money

handling apparatus, first port 30 for removable connection to external controller 8 (see Figure 1 and column 5, lines 24-41), and second port 30 for removable connection to a further money handling device (see column 3, lines 57-61; and column 6, lines 26-49) using a bus-oriented communications protocol (see Figures 4A and 4b; and column 8, line 58 through column 9, line 23). Said first and second types of devices are different members of a group consisting of a banknote validator, a card reader, and a coin dispenser operable to return change.

Bounds further discloses said internal controller being arranged to distinguish between said first and second type of money handling device by a code received from said further device over said second port (see column 3, lines 4-31), and to copy the content of at least some signals between said first and second ports with or without modification thereof (see further column 6, lines 26-49). Said signals having modified content include signals characteristic of the further device and not recognizable by said external controller (see column 3, lines 16-23), and are stored in a memory prior to output (see column 2, lines 11-39).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bounds as applied to claim 4 above, and in further view of Patent Number 6,119,053 by Taylor et al ("Taylor"). Bounds is silent as to a particular communications protocol. Taylor teaches a money handling apparatus comprising money handling apparatus controlled by an MDB protocol (see column 3, lines 16-23) for the purpose of controlling apparatus components. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the MDB protocol of Taylor into the device of Bounds for the purpose of controlling device components.

Claims 15-23 and 28-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bounds in view of Taylor. The money handling device disclosed by Bounds comprises a money handling apparatus (see Figure 1 and column 3, lines 32-67), an internal controller for controlling said money handling apparatus, first port 30 for removable connection to external controller 8 (see Figure 1 and column 5, lines 24-41), and second port 30 for removable connection to a further money handling device (see column 3, lines 57-61; and column 6, lines 26-49) using a bus-oriented communications protocol (see Figures 4A and 4b; and column 8, line 58 through column 9, line 23). Said first and second types of devices are different members of a group consisting of a banknote validator, a card reader, and a coin dispenser operable to return change. Bounds fails to disclose said internal controller arranged to convert between first and second units of value. Taylor teaches internal controller 200 arranged to convert/amend a code/values between first and second units (see Figure 2 and column 3, lines 33-64)

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for the purpose of providing communication between apparatus components. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the controller configuration of Taylor into the device of Bounds for the purpose of providing communication between apparatus components.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, see pages 10-12, filed 5 June 2007, with respect to the rejection of claims 1-6, 24 and 25 under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of said claims has been withdrawn.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-35 under 35 USC 102 and 103 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark J. Beauchaine whose telephone number is (571)272-6934. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM through 5:00PM Mondays through Thursdays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick H. Mackey can be reached on (571)272-6916. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

mjb



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